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Cyperus nodosus, Willd.—A kind of rush growing about two feet high, with soft, spongy culms, which are braided together to form a kind of fan called Sopladors, commonly used to fan charcoal fires.

Cathestecum erectum, V. & H.—A low-creeping grass, which is used in decoction to afford relief in painful menstruation. The dried grass is kept in the markets and has a reputation in the treatment of female diseases.

Hilaria cenchroides, H.B.K.—Also a low-creeping grass, but stronger and coarser than the preceding one. It is used in decoction as a popular remedy to purify the blood, especially in the case of skin diseases. Found at Guadalajara.

Sporobolus Indicus, R. Br.—A grass growing in large clumps in rich bottoms. It is called Liendrilla. The culms are straight and firm, and are sometimes twisted into ropes which, however, are not durable. The Indians in emergencies make hats and baskets of it. It is not a good grazing grass except when in a young state.

GEO. VASEY.

Index to Recent American Botanical Literature.

Abies Douglasii. (Garden, xxxi, p. 288, figures.)

American Poppies.

Professor Porter has called our attention to an error on page 80 of the BULLETIN, where *Papaver Californica* is alluded to as the first American representative of the genus. In noting Mrs. Bingham's communication to the Botanical Gazette, we overlooked the well-known *P. nudicaule*, L., of Arctic America and the Rocky Mountain region—as did Mrs. Bingham.

Asperfoliæ—Some West American.—E. L. Greene. (Pittonia, i., pp. 8-23.)

Professor Greene contends that the ordinal name *Asperfoliæ* is older than *Borraginæ* and should be adopted. He proposes *Allocarya*, n. gen., for some of the plants referred to (*Eritrichium* and *Krynitzia*) by Dr. Gray, and describes seven new species. Under *Plagiobothrys*, Fisch. and Meyer, he places the *Echidiocarya Arizonica*, Gray, as *P. Pringlei*, *P. microcarpa*, n. sp., and a new variety of *P. canescens*, Gray. *Sonnea*, n.

gen., includes four of Dr. Gray's species of *Plagiothrys*, and a new one, *S. Harknessii*.

Biologia Centrali Americana.—Botany, Part xxii.—By W. B. Hemsley.

This part was issued in March. The work is approaching completion, the present pages containing supplemental matter in Compositæ and the following; an enumeration of a collection of plants made on Cozumel Island off the coast of Yucatan, by F. Gaumer in 1885, in which several new species are described; a list of plants from several islands off the coasts of Yucatan and Honduras made by Mr. Gaumer in 1886, and a list of Costa Rica ferns. The appendix contains a valuable sketch of the history of the botanical exploration of Mexico and Central America.

Botanical Contributions, 1887.—Asa Gray. (Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts and Sci., xxii., pp. 270-314.)

I.—A Revision of some Polypetalous Genera and Orders. Under Papaveraceæ Dr. Gray offers an arrangement of *Eschscholtzia*, recognizing nine species and one variety. In *Portulacaceæ* nine genera are adopted, it being contended that *Spraguea* and *Calyptridium* are distinct, in opposition to the views of Professor Greene. Of *Portulaca*, Dr. Gray adopts four terete-leaved species, *P. parvula* here first described. *Calandrinia sesuvioides*, n. sp., is the *Claytonia ambigua*, Watson. A rearrangement of *Claytonia* is given in which *C. cordifolia* and *C. Nevadensis* of Watson are included in *C. asarifolia*, Bongard; *C. Sibirica*, L., var. *heterophylla*, n. var., is the *C. alsinoides*, var. *heterophylla*, T. & G., and *C. bulbifera*, Gray, is reduced to var. *bulbillifera*, n. var., of the same species; *C. spathulata*, Dougl., var. *tenuifolia*, n. var., is *C. tenuifolia* and *C. exigua*, T. & G.; *C. Hallii*, n. sp., is the *C. Chamissonis*, var. *tenerrima*, Gray. *Spraguea*, Torr., is regarded as of but a single species. *Calyptridium Parryi* is a new species from Bear Valley, California. In *Malvaceæ* we find critical revisions of all our larger genera, *Sidalcea pedata*, *Spheralcea Coulteri*, (the *Malvastrum Coulteri* of Watson), *S. ambigua*, (the *S. Emoryi*, Torr. in part), *S. Rusbyi*, *Sida Neo-Mexicana* and *S. Xanti*, *Anoda Arizonica*, *A. Thurberi*, *A. abutiloides* and *Abutilon Xanti* are new species. *Horsfordia* is a new

genus between *Spheralcea* and *Abutilon* consisting of *H. alata*, (*Sida alata*, Watson), and *H. Newberryi* (*Abutilon Newberryi*, Watson.) *Hibiscus lasiocarpus*, Cav., is the oldest name for *H. incanus*, Schrad. & Wendl., and *H. grandiflorus*, Michx.; its variety *occidentalis*, n. var., is the *H. Moscheutos*, (?) var. *occidentalis*, Torrey.

A new order, *Cheiranthodendreae* contains the genera *Cheiranthodendron*, Larreat, and *Fremontia*, Torrey. Three species of *Tilia*, *T. Americana*, L., *T. pubescens*, Ait. and its var. *leptophylla*, Vent., and *T. heterophylla*, Vent. are recognized, and Dr. Gray thinks that *T. Mexicana*, Schlecht, is also a good species.

II.—*Sertum Chihuahuense*: appendix, contains descriptions of six new Gamopetalæ from Mr. Pringle's Mexican collection in 1886.

III.—*Miscellanea*. *Anemone Oregana*, *Viola Howellii*, *Pentstemon Orcuttii*, *Gentiana linearis*, Froel., var. *latifolia*, *Frasera Cusickii*, *Phlox dolichantha*, *Phacelia hirtuosa*, *Lycium Shockleyi*, *Castilleja Suksdorfii* and *Galvesia juncea* (*Antirrhinum junceum*, Gray), are here characterized.

Defoliation.—*Illustrated by a Longitudinal Section through the Stem and Base of Petiole of the Virginian Creeper, Ampelopsis hederacea*. (Cole's Studies in Microscopical Science, vol. iv., Sect., 1., pp. 29-31; plate 8.)

Diatom—*The Life of a*.—Samuel Lockwood. (Journ. N. Y. Micros. Soc., ii., pp. 135-142.)

Drosera rotundifolia.—Chas. E. Briggs. (Nat. Comp., ii., pp. 68, 69.)

Echinocystis, section *Megarrhiza*.—Edward Lee Greene. (Pittonia, i., pp. 1-4.)

This is in effect the same paper published in the West American Scientist, Vol. III, pp. 34-35, and noted in the BULLETIN, this volume, p. 60.

Eschscholtzia glauca, n. sp.—E. L. Greene. (Pittonia, i., p. 45.)

In reviewing Dr. Gray's treatment of this genus in Proc. Amer. Acad., xxii., pp. 271-273, Professor Greene describes this new species, one of the perennial group, and remarks that there is probably still another one in the interior of California—perhaps the *E. crocea*, Benth.

Flora Ottawaensis—Additions, 1885. (Trans. Ottawa Field Nat. Club, ii., p. 363.)

Nineteen species of Phanerogamia, additional to those recorded in previous lists, are enumerated.

Florida Fungi—Notes on, No. 12.—W. W. Calkins. (Journ. Mycol., iii., p. 46)

Fungi—New Species of.—J. B. Ellis and B. M. Everhart. (Journ. Mycol., iii., pp. 41-45.)

Nineteen new species are described.

Fungi—The Use of English Names for.—C. E. Bessey. (Amer. Nat., xxi., pp. 264, 265.)

Professor Bessey warmly advocates the use of English names for the Fungi, at least those which are familiar as pests.

Apropos of popular names, a funny review may be found in the Journal of Botany (xxv., pp. 120-121) of a "Text-book of British Fungi," by W. D. Hay, the index being given in popular names which recall "those of some of Dickens' characters, if the following may be taken as examples: Wrinkletwig, Jellysprout, Thimblefinger, and Rootingshank."

Grasses of North America, for Farmers and Students.—W. J. Beal, Michigan Agr. College, Vol. 1.

This is the most extensive work on Grasses that has been undertaken in this country. The first volume is an 8vo of 457 pages, divided into 17 chapters. The first chapter is one of 40 pages, on the structure, form and development of grasses, giving minute details of the roots, culms, leaves, sheaths, bracts, flowers, etc., with many illustrations to show the tissues and microscopic structure. Then follow three chapters on the power of motion in leaves, on plant growth and composition, on plant affinity, on the botanical characters of the order Gramineæ, its economic importance, and directions for collecting, studying and preserving grasses. These chapters will mainly be of interest to the special student.

Then follows a chapter on "Native Grazing Lands," comprising sketches of the grass vegetation of the native prairies and pastures of the west and southwest, including parts of Mexico. These five chapters form the first hundred pages of the work.

The next hundred are given to an account of the commoner grasses of agriculture, their adaptation to different localities, and the views of various agriculturists as to their respective values for pastures and meadows. The book is almost exhaustive in its treatment of the subject.

The typographical appearance of the work is very good. The illustrations vary considerably in character, some being well executed, while a few appear coarse and poorly finished.

We are informed that the second volume is in preparation, and that it will contain descriptions "of all known grasses of North America, 700 or more species, (if all North America be included the number of species will probably be twice as many) with illustrations of one species in each genus, and in some cases more than one." Its appearance will be looked for with great interest by botanists in general and by students of grasses particularly.

GEO. VASEY.

Hazardia—*A new Genus of Asteroid Compositæ*.—Edward Lee Greene. (Pittonia, i., pp. 28-30.)

This new genus is based on two plants formerly described by Professor Greene, under *Corethrogyne*, and a new species, *H. serrata*, from the island of Santa Cruz.

Heuchera sanguinea, Engelm.—J. D. Hooker. (Curtis' Bot. Mag., xliii., Tab. 6,929.)

Le Phallus et la Morille. (Le Nat. Canad., xvi., p. 96.)

Mosses collected in the Neighborhood of Ottawa.—John Macoun. (Trans. Ottawa Field Nat. Club, ii., pp. 364-372.)

An enumeration of 123 species, 3 of them Sphagnums, and 43 Hypnums, with localities and dates of collection.

Mycologic Flora of the Miami Valley, Ohio.—A. P. Morgan. (Journ. Cincin. Soc. Nat. Hist., x., pp. 7-18; continued.)

New Species, mainly Californian.—Edward Lee Greene. (Pittonia, i., pp. 30-40.)

Cardamine filifolia, *Ribes Marshallii*, *Mitella diversifolia*, *M. ovalis*, *Godetia micropetala*, *Astragalus Miguelensis*, *A. leucopsis*, T. and G. var. *brachypus*, *Galium flaccidum*, *G. Miguelense*, *Calais pluriseta*, *Arctostaphylos myrtifolia*, Parry, *Phacelia scabrella*, *Diplacus parviflorus*, *Eunanus Austinæ*, *E. Cusickii*,

(*Mimulus Bigelovii*, var. *ovatus*, Gray), *E. subsecundus* (*M. subsecundus*, Gray), *Mimulus arvensis*, *Castilleja hololeuca*, *Sphacele fragrans*, *Eriogonum grande*, *E. rubescens*, *E. tripodum*, *Atriplex nodosa* and *Quercus parvula* are here described.

Septorias of North America—Enumeration and Description of the.—George Martin. (Journ. Mycol., iii., pp. 37-41.)

Sumacs.—Warren H. Manning. (Vick's Ill. Month. Mag., x., pp. 101-103 ; four figures.)

An interesting account on the habits and uses of the various species of *Rhus*. Figures of *R. glabra*, *R. venenata*, *R. aromatica* and *R. Toxicodendron* are given.

Sympetaleia.—Asa Gray. (Amer. Journ. Sci., xxxiii., pp. 319, 320.)

Dr. Gray notes that Professor Baillon's new genus *Lasella*, published in a recent number of the Bulletin of the Linnæan Society of Paris, has just the characters of *Sympetaleia aurea*, Gray, from Lower California.

Tomato—The Origin of, from a morphological standpoint.—L. H. Bailey, Jr. (The Am. Garden, April, 1887, pp. 116, twelve figures.)

The author concludes that "most of the large varieties of tomatoes give unmistakable evidence of development from the cherry tomato, which has regularly a two-celled fruit."

Trifolium—Some West American Species of.—Edward Lee Greene. (Pittonia, i., pp. 4-6.)

Critical notes on nine species are given, among them *T. olivaceum*, *T. columbinum*, *T. triflorum*, *T. Rusbyi*, *T. exile*, and *T. laciniatum*, sp. nn.

Von Schweinitz—Lewis David. (Journ. Elisha Mitchell Sci. Soc., 1885-'86, pp. 9-24, with portrait.)

A very interesting biographical sketch of this eminent naturalist, based on a paper by Mr. Walter R. Johnson, published by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, in 1835.

Zauschneria—The Species of.—Edward Lee Greene. (Pittonia, i., pp. 23-28.)

Five species are recognized, three of them here first described.